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ON WAR, REVOLUTION AND PEACE

May 10, 2007

Amy A. Hobby
BLS Clearance Officer
Division of Management Systems
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 4080
Washington, DC 20212

Dear Ms. Hobby:

I am writing to convey my enthusiasm for the proposed collaboration between the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the National Election Studies. Having served on both the NES Board of Overseers and the NSF Political Science Review Panel, and having utilized NES data in my research for more than thirty years, I can provide first hand testimony to the quality and value of the NES data collection. Begun in 1948, it is the most important single source of data on political change in the United States in the modern era.

NES has conducted a very good changing of the guard to a younger generation of scholars, in particular the current PIs, Jon Krosnick and Arthur Lupia, who are extremely impressive. They have launched a number of innovative cooperative initiatives, including the one under discussion with NLS. By including a number of core variables of interest to political scientists, the NLS will become useful to an entirely new profession. This is a low cost, low risk opportunity both to expand the evidentiary base available to political science and to expand the constituency of users of the NLS.

Sincerely,

Morris P. Fiorina

Morris P. Fiorina
Wendt Family Professor of Political Science
Senior, Fellow, The Hoover Institution